

Applicant : Kumar et al.

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Page : 3

**Version with markings to show changes made**

In the claims:

Claims 5, 12, and 14 have been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) The modulate aptamer according to claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 4], wherein the target protein is HIV-1 Tat protein and/or a fragment thereof.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 10 [or 11], wherein the immobilization is by specific binding between avidin or streptoavidin and biotin.

14. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 13] claim 9 or 10, wherein the target protein is an HIV-1 Tat protein and/or a fragment thereof.